



DC SUPERMAN

SUPERMAN VS
SUPERGIRL:

"THE FEUD OF THE TITANS"

ACTION COMICS

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

NO. 402
JULY
30010

15c

DO NOT
FEAR THE
PRISONER,
MY BROTHERS!
HE IS
HELPLESS!

MY
POWERS
ARE
GONE!

WHY?

"THIS HOSTAGE MUST DIE"



5/10/16

TWO GREAT HITS...



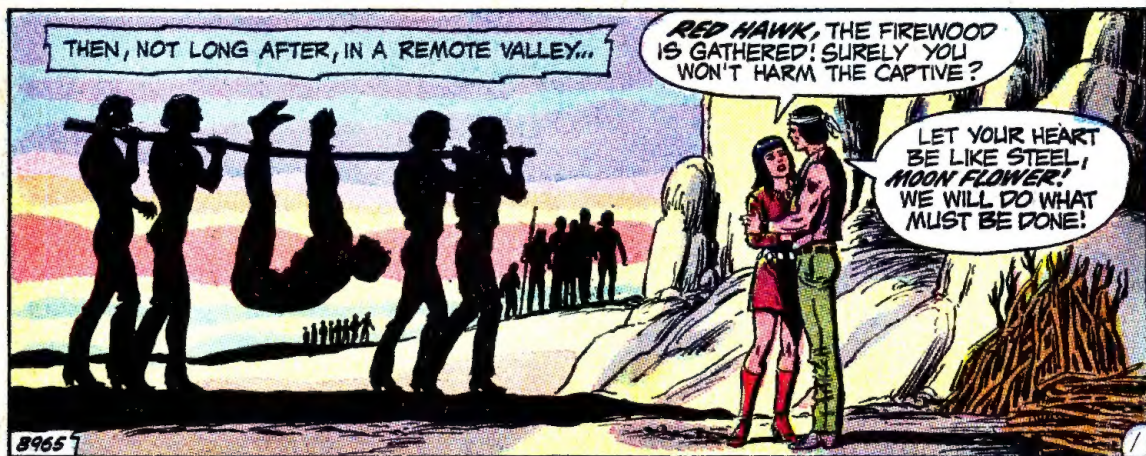
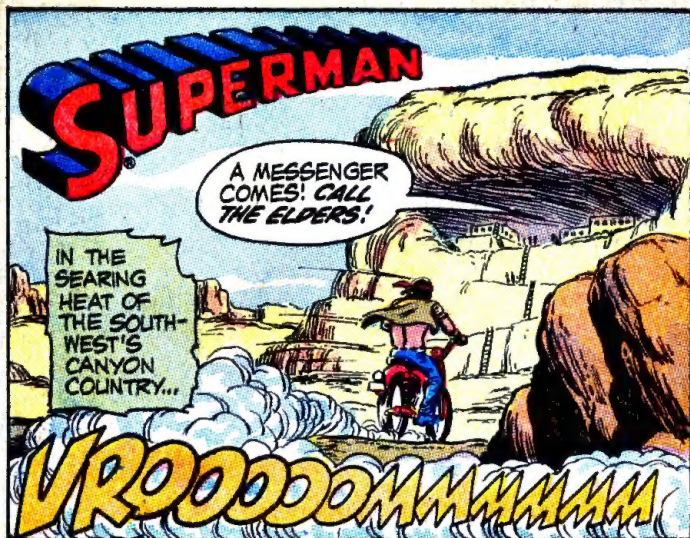
ON SALE MAY 20TH



NEW FROM



ON SALE MAY 27TH



89657

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DO NOT FEAR
THE PRISONER,
BROTHERS!

HE IS *HELPLESS*
BEFORE THE MAGIC
POWER OF MY
SAND PAINTING!

UHHHHH!
THAT KOOKY
MEDICINE MAN
ISN'T KIDDING!
I, WHOSE SUPER-
POWERS HAVE
MOVED *WORLDS*,
AM POWERLESS
BEFORE HIS
PRIMITIVE
WITCHCRAFT!

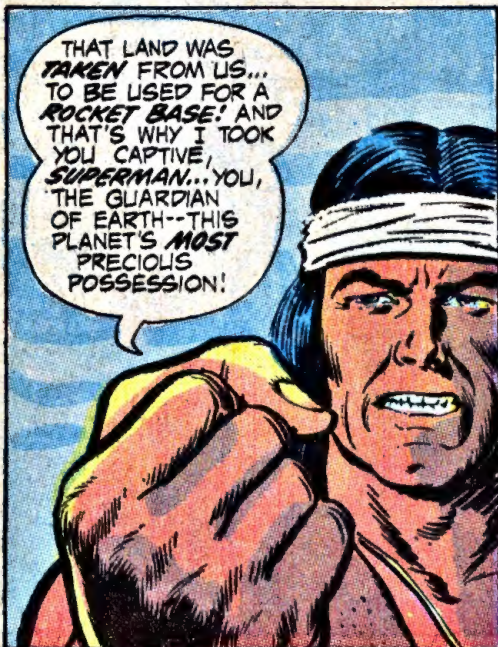
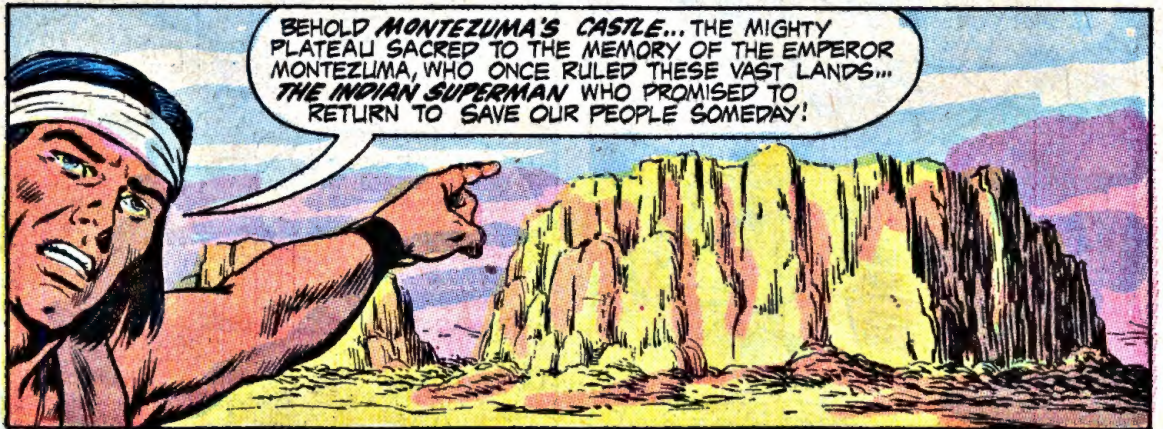
YES! THAT'S THE ONCE MIGHTY *SUPERMAN*, HELD HOSTAGE
BY A BAND OF ANGRY MEN WHO STRUGGLE AGAINST EVIL AND
WRONGDOING! FACE IT! EITHER THEY GET JUSTICE OR--

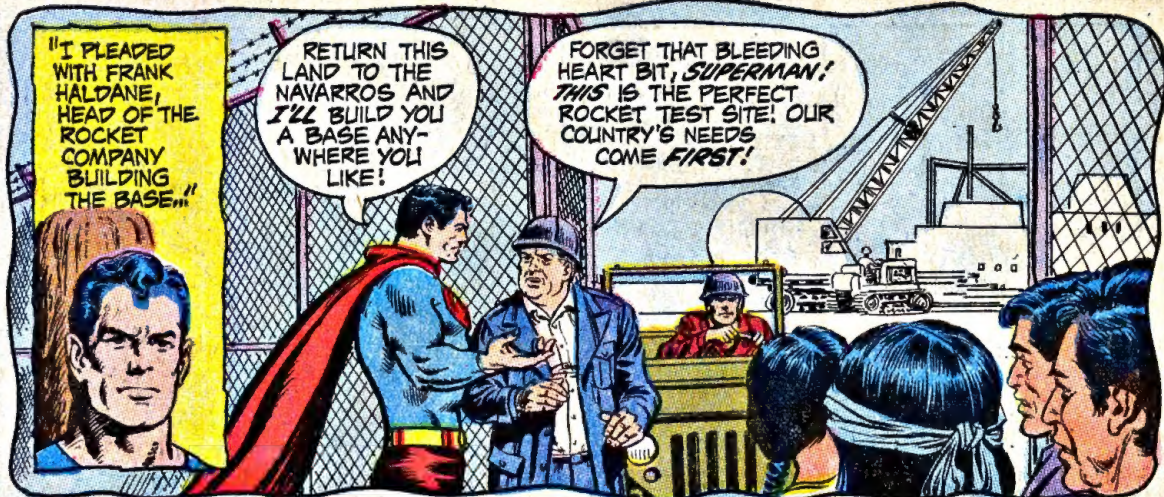
This
HOSTAGE MUST DIE!

ART • SWAN E. ANDERSON

STORY • LEO DORFMAN

2





"I PLEADED WITH FRANK HALDANE, HEAD OF THE ROCKET COMPANY BUILDING THE BASE!"

RETURN THIS LAND TO THE NAVARROS AND I'LL BUILD YOU A BASE ANYWHERE YOU LIKE!

FORGET THAT BLEEDING HEART BIT, *SUPERMAN!* THIS IS THE PERFECT ROCKET TEST SITE! OUR COUNTRY'S NEEDS COME FIRST!



"WHEN I BROUGHT THE BAD NEWS BACK TO THE NAVARROS..."

THIS MAGIC SAND PAINTING WILL HELP US REGAIN OUR STOLEN LAND!

SEIZE *SUPERMAN*, MY BROTHERS!

HUH? ARE YOU *CRAZY*?



"MY SUPER-STRENGTH SHOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH TO VANQUISH ANY ARMY, BUT..."

STRUGGLING IS *USELESS!* MY MAGIC SAND PAINTING HAS *ERASED YOUR POWERS!*

UHHH! HE'S RIGHT ABOUT MY POWERS!



AS *SUPERMAN* ENDS HIS REVERIE...

LET OUR SMOKE SIGNALS TELL THE WORLD--*EITHER WE GET MONTEZUMA'S CASTLE OR IT'S CURTAINS FOR SUPERMAN!*

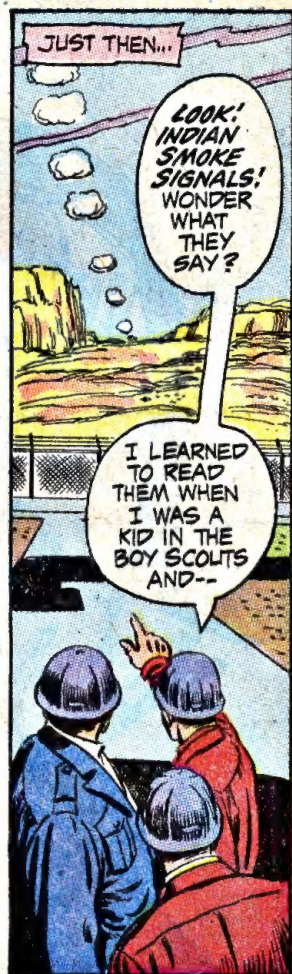
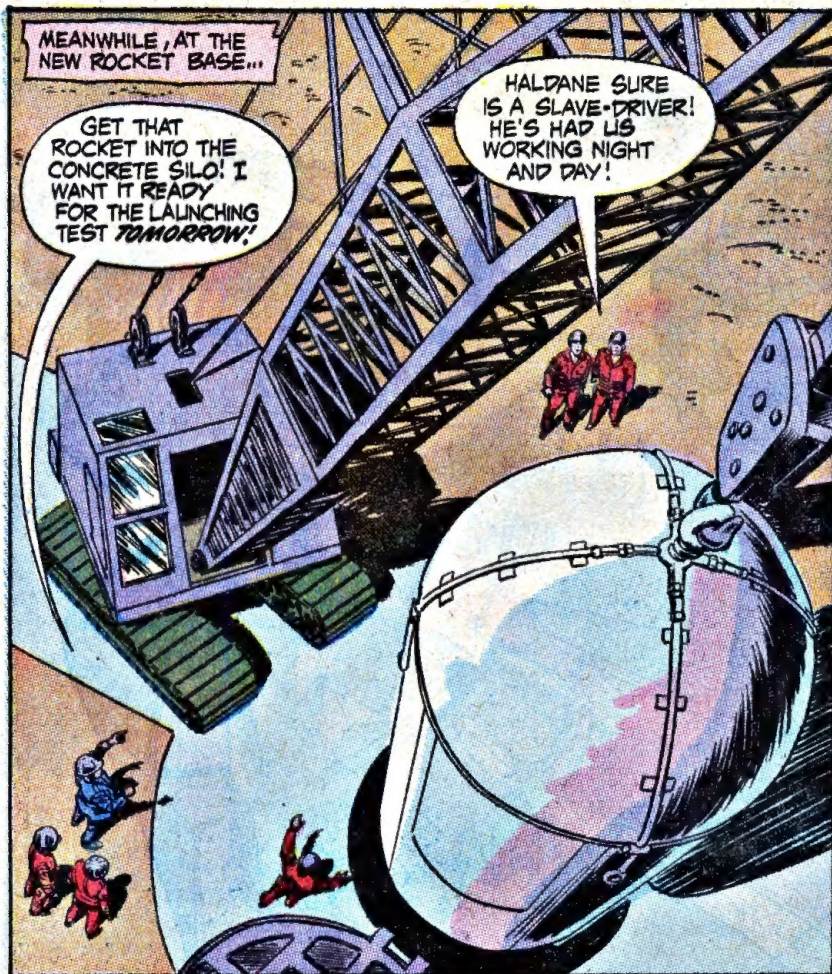
FOR ALL HIS MAGIC, *RED HAWK* IS A FOOL! A DOZEN POSSES WILL BE SEARCHING FOR ME WITHIN AN HOUR!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.



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Get into the Aurora/Factory Experimentals. Fastest cars you can drive...without a license. Ten new models. Each one's built from the ground up. Drive 'em all. A/FX cars. From the Model Motoring Division of Aurora. We're for real.



PRESENTLY, IN HALDANE'S PRIVATE OFFICE...

HM! IT DOESN'T BURN AT ALL! THIS IS **SUPERMAN'S** INDESTRUCTIBLE CAPE! HE'D NEVER SURRENDER IT VOLUNTARILY!

THE NAVARROS ARE HOLDING HIM HOSTAGE!

STILL, IT *COULD* BE A TRICK... HMMM! **SUPERMAN'S** ALWAYS HANDLING EMERGENCIES! I'LL TURN ON THE NEWS BROADCAST AND SEE IF HE'S BEING MISSED!

AND THE AIR WAVES ECHO WITH DESPERATE APPEALS...

CALLING **SUPERMAN**! WHERE ARE YOU?

SUPERMAN, OUR SHIP HAS BEEN STRANDED ON A REEF SINCE YESTERDAY! WHERE ARE YOU?

SUPERMAN HAS NOT BEEN SEEN FOR 24 HOURS... AND WITH **SUPER-GIRL** AWAY ON A SPACE MISSION...

A QUICK CHANGE TO HIS SPACE UNIFORM, AND...

IF HE'S NOT ANSWERING THOSE ALERTS, THEN HE'S GOT TO BE A PRISONER! THE **F.B.I.** AND THE **C.I.A.** WILL BE SWARMING AROUND HERE SOON TO INVESTIGATE HIS ABSENCE! MY WHOLE SCHEME WOULD GO UP IN SMOKE!

I'D BETTER GET TO THE ROCKET SILO!

SHORTLY, IN THE DEPTHS OF THE SILO...

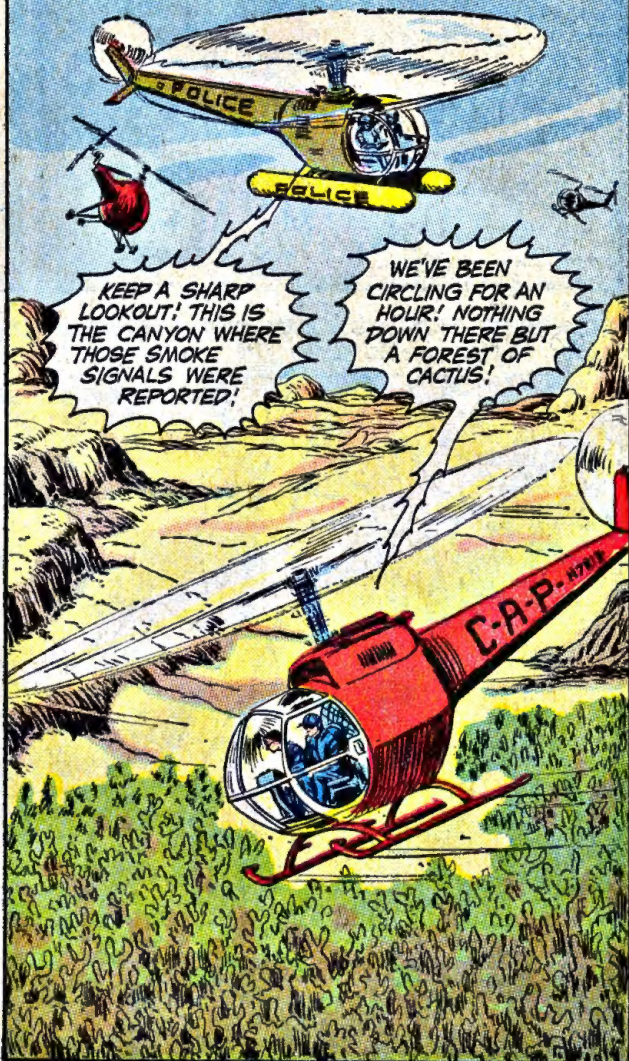
GOT TO MOVE **FAST**... IF THIS OLD PARCHMENT IS THE **MCCOY**, MY SPECIAL ROCKET WILL SOON BE CARRYING A PAYLOAD THAT WILL MAKE FORT KNOX LOOK LIKE A PIGGYBANK!

MOMENTS
LATER, THE
ROCKET
TAKES OFF--
NOT SKY-
WARD, BUT
INTO THE
DEPTHS
OF THE
EARTH!

A MECHANICAL
MOLE--AND
EVERYONE
THOUGHT IT
WAS A
MISSILE!
I MADE
SAPS OF
THEM ALL...
THE
NAVARROS,
THE
GOVERNMENT
AND
SUPERMAN!



MEANWHILE, SEARCH PARTIES ARE ALREADY
SCOURING THE SITE WHERE THE ACTION
ACE WAS LAST SEEN!

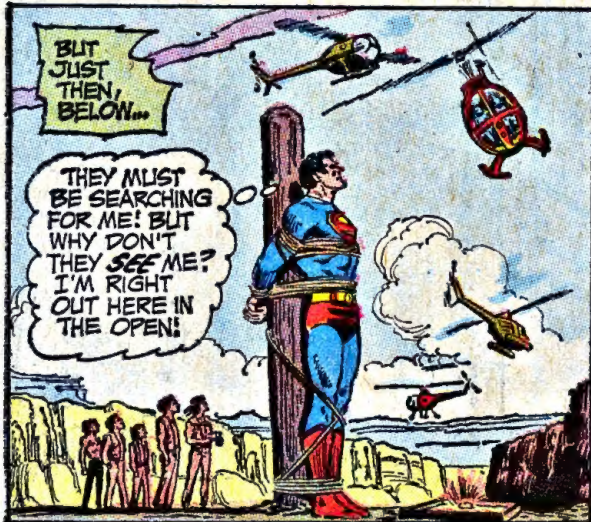


KEEP A SHARP
LOOKOUT! THIS IS
THE CANYON WHERE
THOSE SMOKE
SIGNALS WERE
REPORTED!

WE'VE BEEN
CIRCLING FOR AN
HOUR! NOTHING
DOWN THERE BUT
A FOREST OF
CACTUS!

BUT
JUST
THEN,
BELOW...

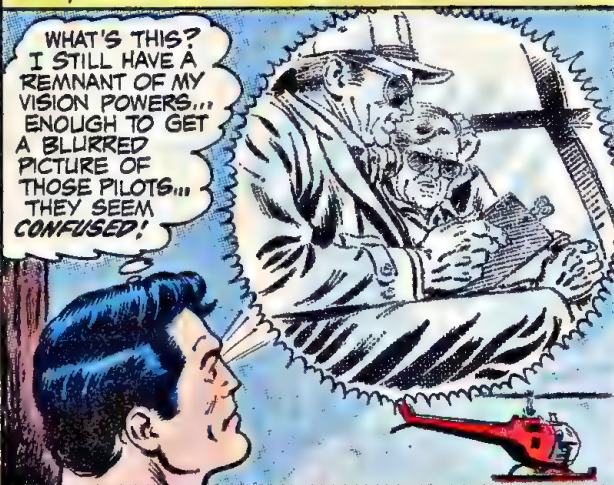
THEY MUST
BE SEARCHING
FOR ME! BUT
WHY DON'T
THEY SEE ME?
I'M RIGHT
OUT HERE IN
THE OPEN!



THEY'RE LEAVING...
ABANDONING ME!
OH!! IF ONLY I
HAD MY TELESCOPIC
VISION... IF I COULD
SEE WHY THEY'RE
DESERTING ME...



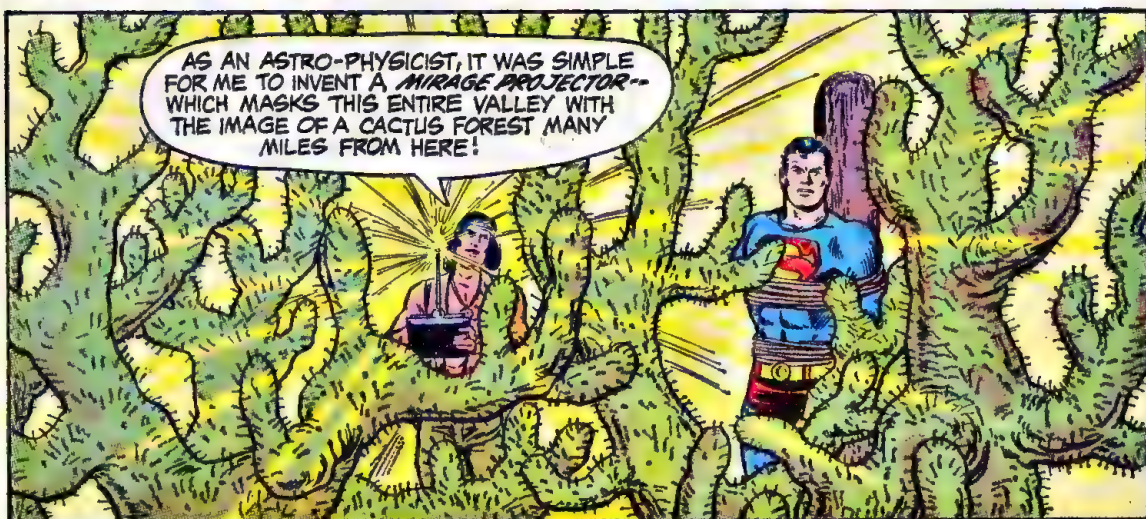
THEN, AS IF BY AN ACT OF SHEER SUPER-WILL!!!



WHAT'S THIS?
I STILL HAVE A
REMNANT OF MY
VISION POWERS...
ENOUGH TO GET
A BLURRED
PICTURE OF
THOSE PILOTS...
THEY SEEM
CONFUSED!



WONDERING *WHY* THEY
DIDN'T SPOT YOU? THIS
DEVICE IS THE
ANSWER!



AS AN ASTRO-PHYSICIST, IT WAS SIMPLE
FOR ME TO INVENT A *MIRAGE PROJECTOR*--
WHICH MASKS THIS ENTIRE VALLEY WITH
THE IMAGE OF A CACTUS FOREST MANY
MILES FROM HERE!



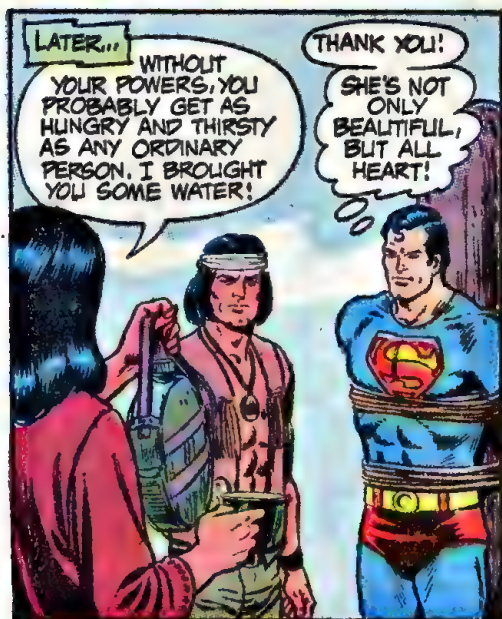
MOON FLOWER!
WHAT'S WRONG
WITH THAT BOY?

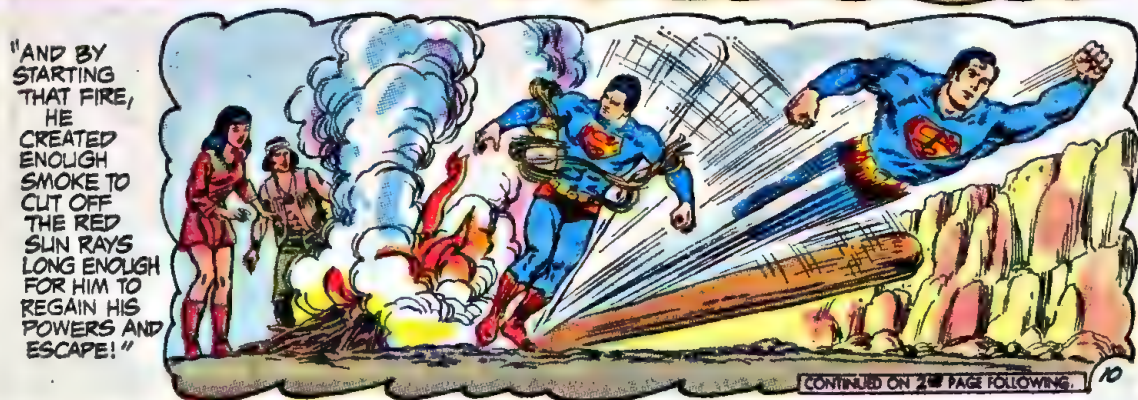
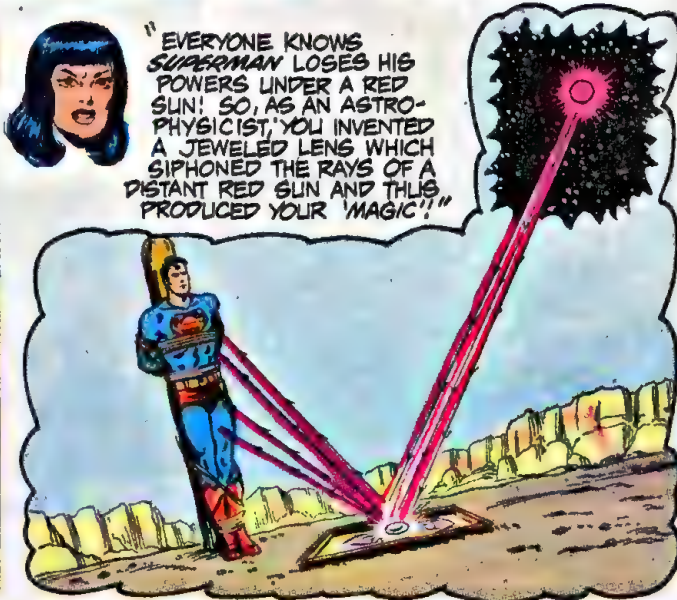
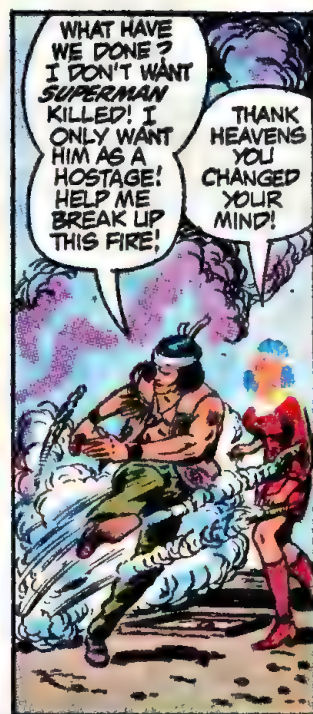
HE FELL
AND HURT
HIMSELF
BADLY!
THERE MAY
BE A BREAK,
BUT WE'RE
NOT SURE!



WE OUGHT
TO GET HIM
TO THE
HOSPITAL
FOR AN
X-RAY!

NO! THE AUTHORITIES
ARE HUNTING FOR
US NAVARROS
EVERYWHERE. A SLIP
OF HIS TONGUE,
AND HE MIGHT
REVEAL WHERE
WE'VE GOT
SUPERMAN!







Illustrations
enlarged to
show detail.

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Her Address		
City	State	Zip



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of \$20 and 1 payment
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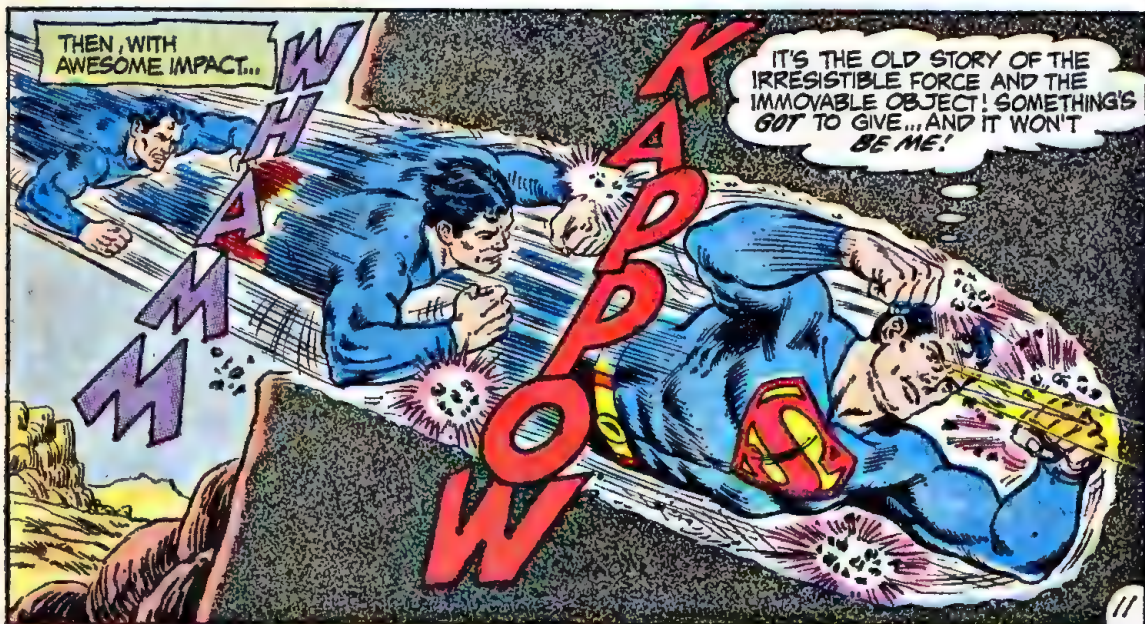
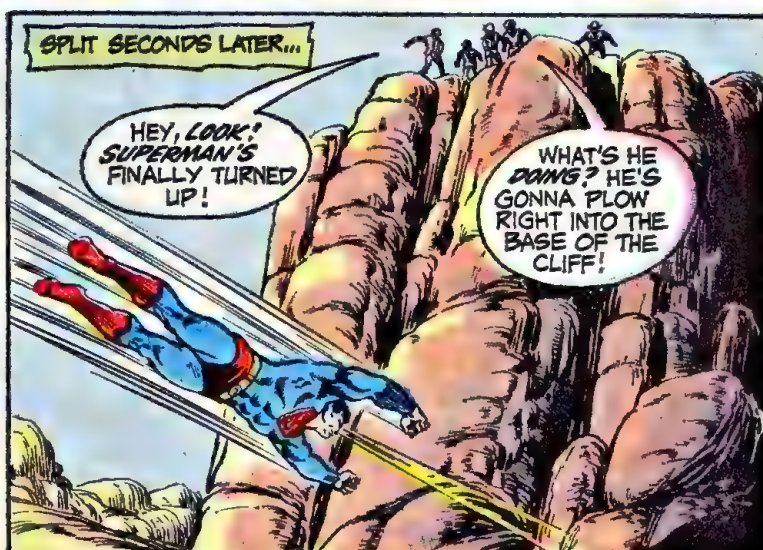
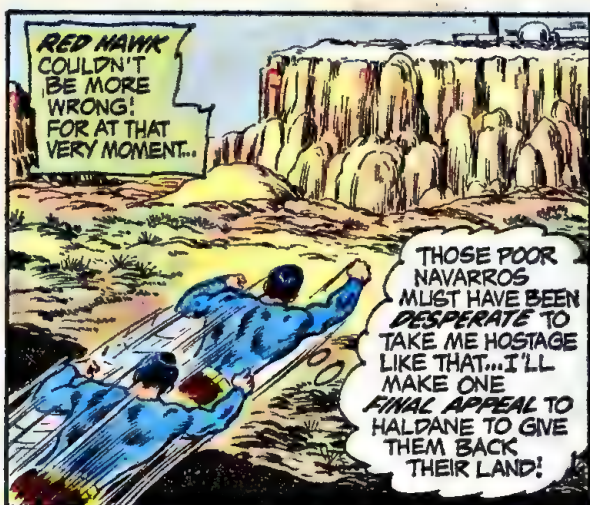
With genuine Linde Blue Star - \$229
11 monthly payments of \$20 and 1 payment of \$14.

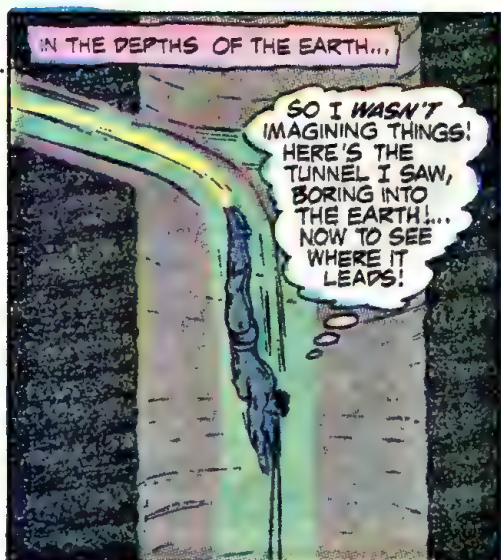
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401 - 15th Street, Oakland, Calif. 94612

NO INTEREST • NO CARRYING CHARGE

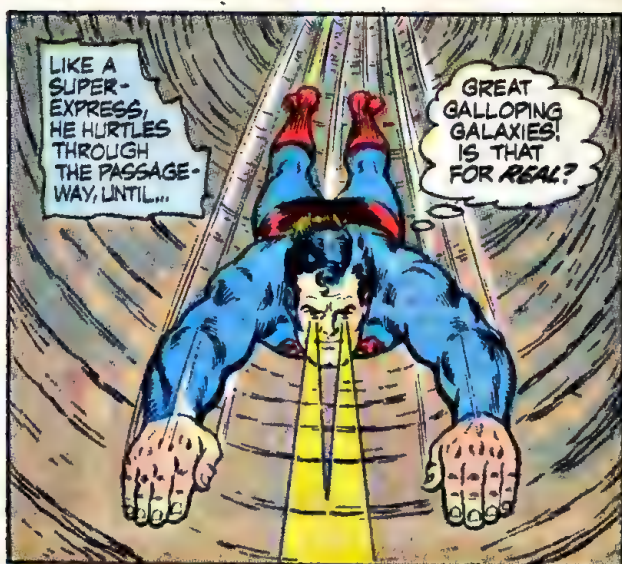
\$5.00 charge on all purchases to cover postage, shipping, handling.





IN THE DEPTHS OF THE EARTH...

SO I WASN'T
IMAGINING THINGS!
HERE'S THE
TUNNEL I SAW,
BORING INTO
THE EARTH!...
NOW TO SEE
WHERE IT
LEADS!



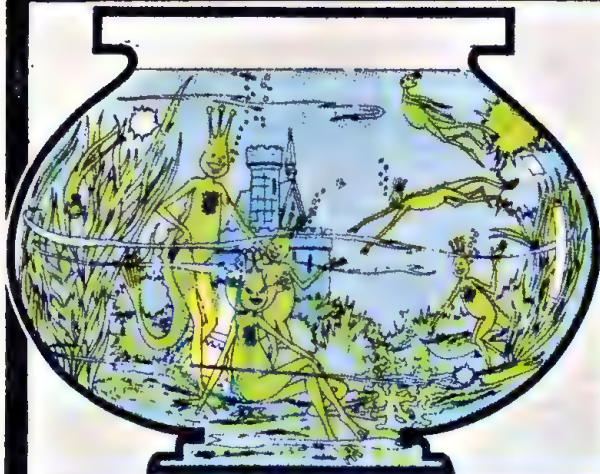
LIKE A
SUPER-
EXPRESS,
HE HURTLES
THROUGH
THE PASSAGE-
WAY, UNTIL...

GREAT
GALLOPING
GALAXIES!
IS THAT
FOR REAL?



IT'S A CAVERN...
CRAMMED WITH THE
TREASURE OF THE
ANCIENT AZTECS!
IT MUST BE WORTH...
BILLIONS!

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Name _____ (Please Print)

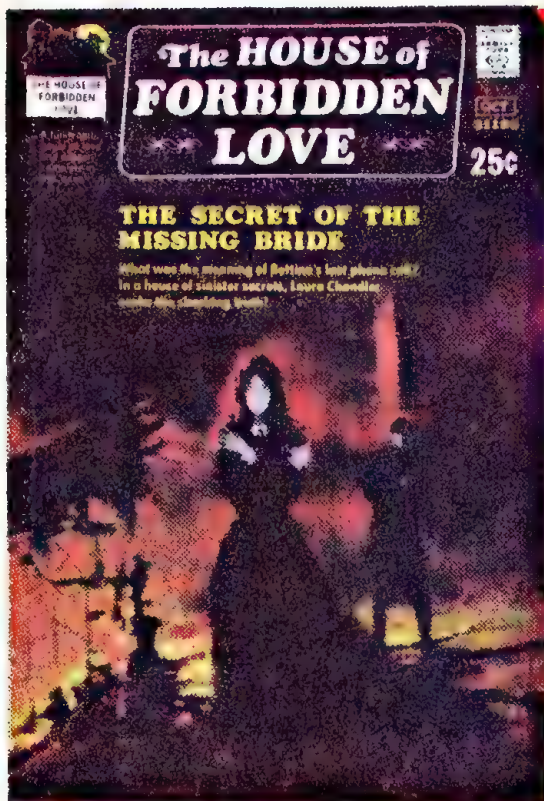
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25¢

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SCAMPER



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START YOUR OWN
MAGIC ANIMAL CIRCUS
RIGHT AT HOME



INSTRUCTIONS:

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Only **\$1.00** per set of 6

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NO.	PRICE
ANIMAL CIRCUS at \$1.00 each	
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3 PAIR ASTRO-TOPS at \$2.50	
10-IN-1 SCOPE at 50¢ each	

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grows his own
full-feathered
plume.



SIMBA

the Lion
grows a
long-flowing
mane.



JIFFY

the Rabbit
grows
long, Parky
ears.



SLEEPY

the Hound Dog
grows
sad, droopy
ears



SMILEY

the Porcupine
grows
needles
of quills.



SCAMPER

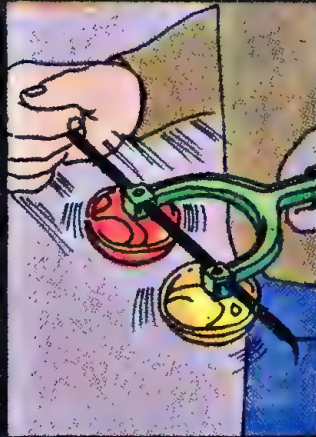
the Squirrel
grows
a big, bushy
tail.

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2. Compound Microscope — 120X enlargement for studying specimens, locating wood splinters, examining coins, stamps, etc.

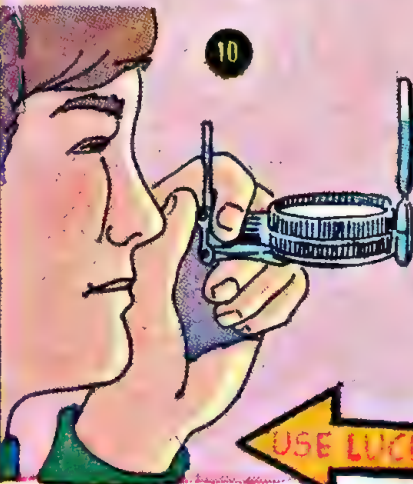
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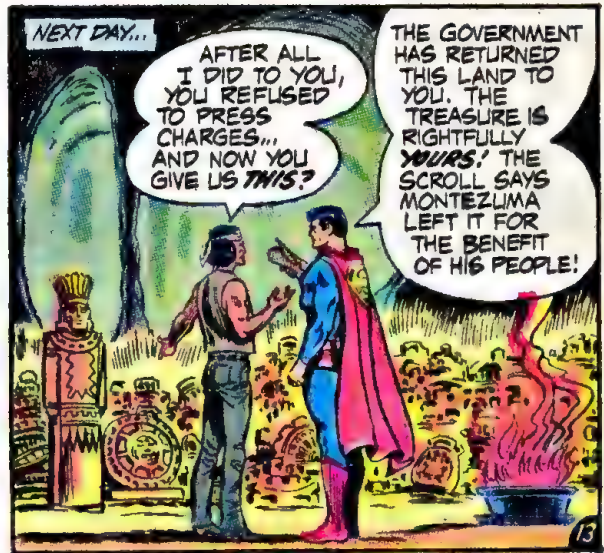
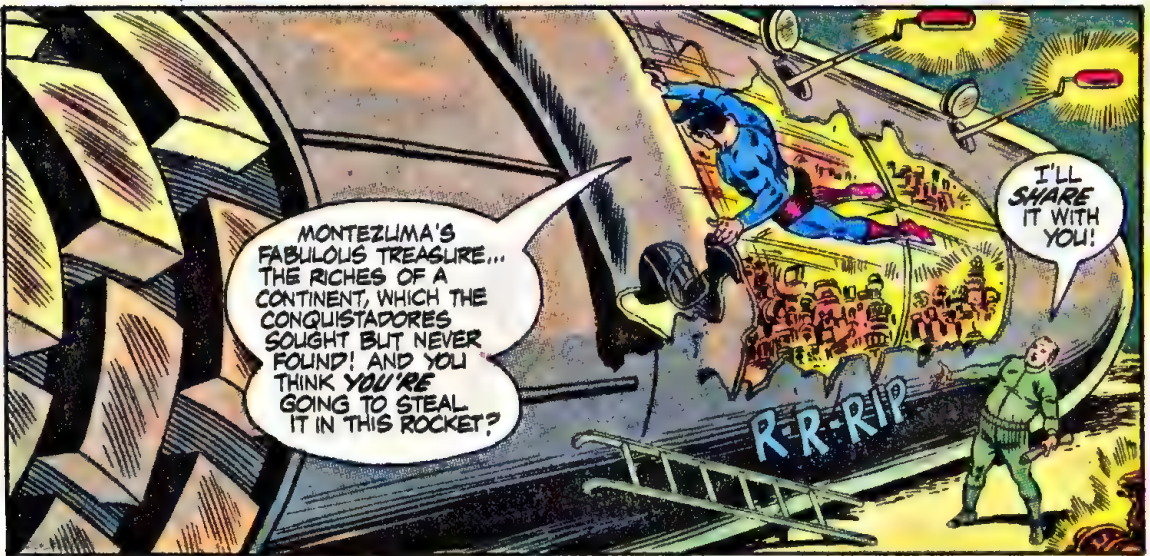
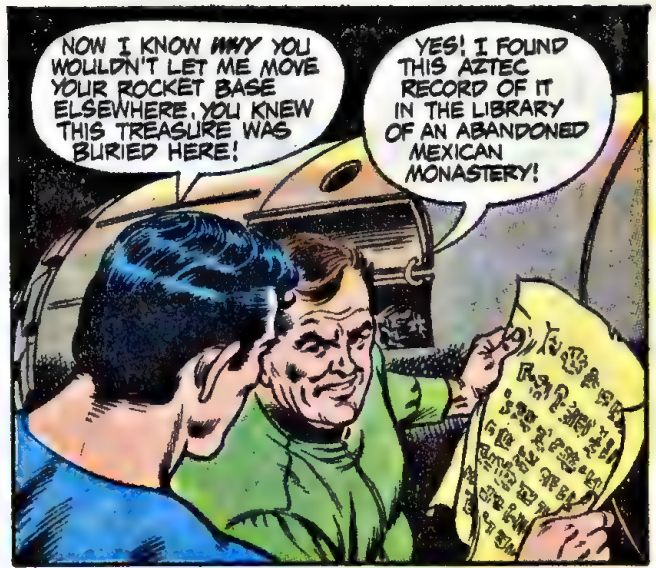
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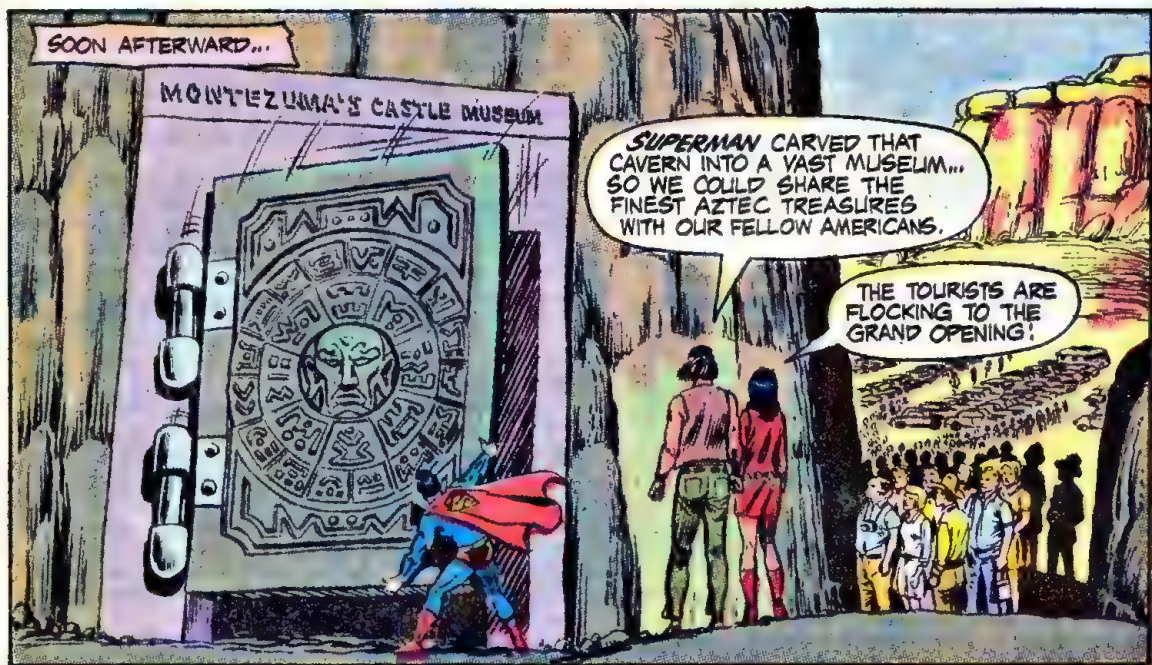
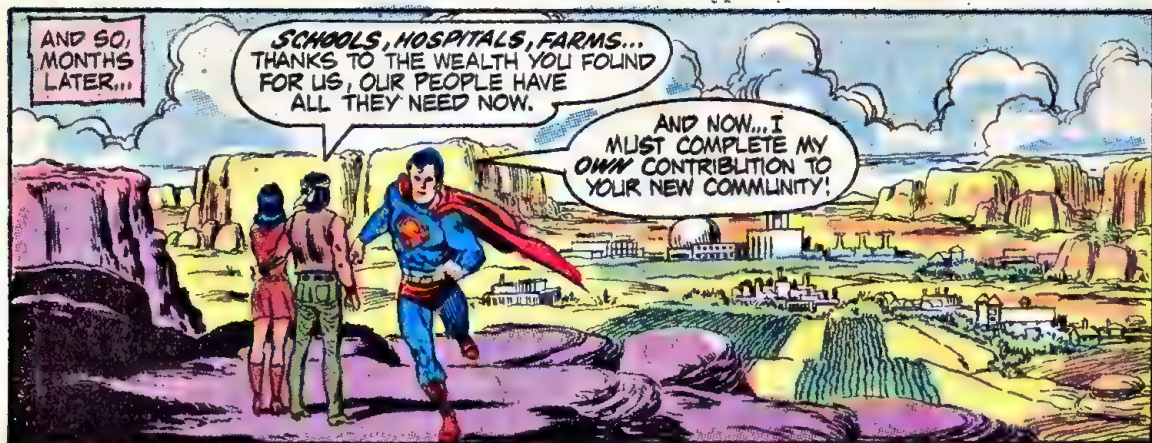
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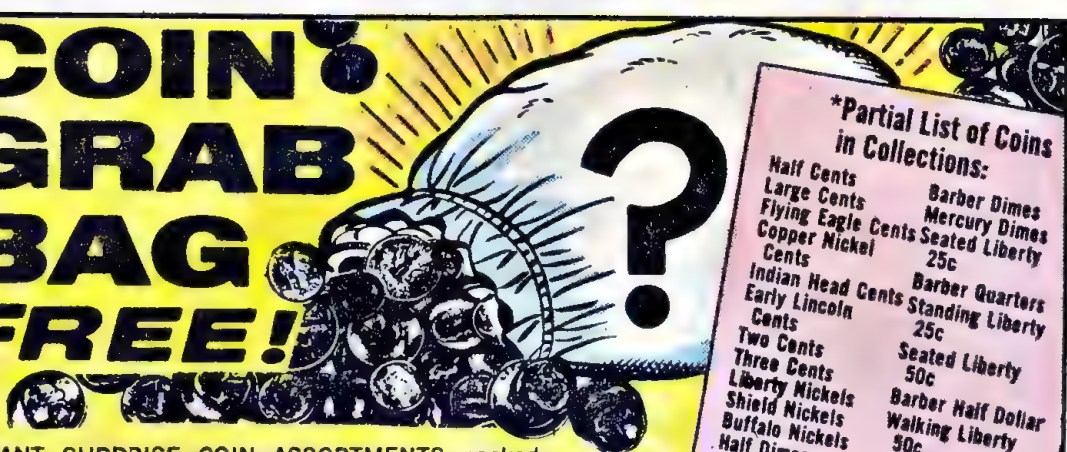
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Cents	Barber Quarters
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Cents	Seated Liberty
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Three Cents	Barber Half Dollar
Liberty Nickels	Walking Liberty
Shield Nickels	50c
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Seated Liberty	Coins of the World
Dimes	

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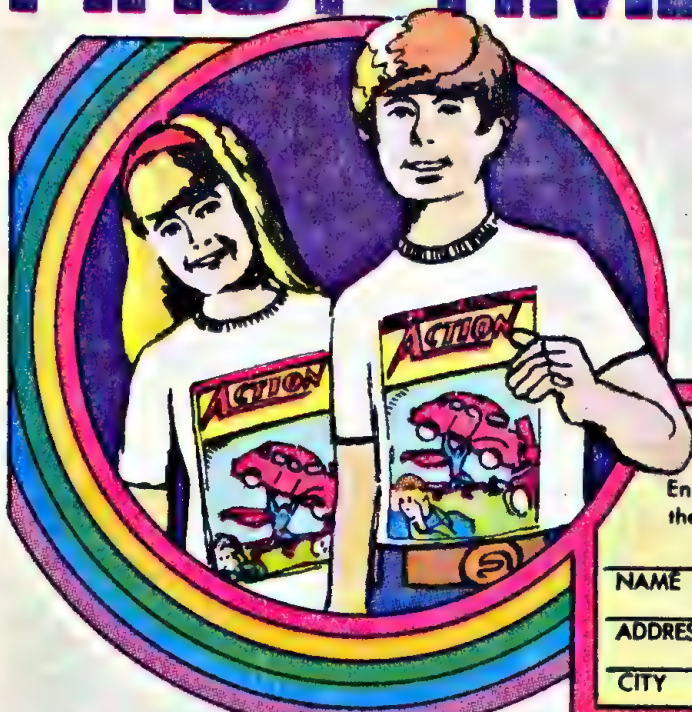
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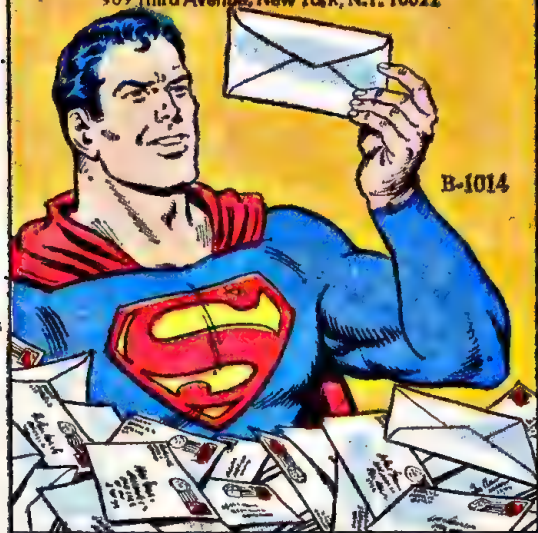
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Dear Editor:

Little did I know when I purchased the March ACTION that inside were 22 pages of exploding emotion. "The Pied Piper of Steel" showed Supie as a violent protester, and how much he loved the Daily Planet. I think the highlights of this story were the new Rolling Newsroom (this vehicle should prove to be verrry interesting) and Clark looking at the printing presses for the last time.

The second story was also good, but too short. This yarn showed Superman's great love for his cousin, Supergirl.

Just keep the good stories and emotions coming.

Anthony Bellavita, Glen Cove, N.Y.

That's the way it is when Leo Dorfman is writing an issue. Sometimes we have to duck behind our desks to escape the impact of those exploding emotions. And the fallout has us crying the rest of the day. —Ed.



Dear Editor:

My little sister and I enjoy all of your Superman books. My mother is writing this for us since I am just in the second grade.

I have been wearing braces on my legs for over two years, and your books have brought me a lot of enjoyment since I can't play like other boys and girls. My little sister really likes Superman and wants to grow up to be as pretty as Supergirl.

We hope you will put this in your comic, for I will keep on buying them.

Lawrence and Yolanda Sowards,
Fort Sam Houston, Tex.

Thanks, Larry. Our best wishes go out to you, your sister, and your Mom. —Ed.



Dear Editor:

Neal Adams' cover for ACTION #398 was good, and free of the disproportion of his figures on too many of his

recent covers. But the subject matter was disappointing—isn't Superman a *hero*? Not if the covers of ACTION issues over the past two years are any indication! Superman has been depicted as a coward, a robber, a saboteur, an invalid, a murderer, and now as a vandal. Only once (#393) is he even *trying* to do anything heroic, and then he's being held back by a 15-year-old boy! I don't mind such a cover once in a while, but enough is enough!

In the Fortress story, we all know no Earth-plant hormones could harm Superman or Supergirl.

Although "The Pied Piper of Steel" was pretty formulated, it was enjoyable. As it marked the first appearance of Clark Kent in this magazine since the "New Look," Leo Dorfman had to introduce Morgan Edge and the Galaxy Broadcasting System. He handled them very well, and even introduced a few good touches of his own, such as the Rolling Newsroom and the removal of the Planet Globe. (After all these years . . . kinda gets ya right here.)

The rest of the "Piper" was a bit padded but quite entertaining. I especially liked that scene on page 13 where the mob turned on Horkin. I couldn't help but chuckle at Superman lending the musical accompaniment to the destruction of Horkin's evil plans.

Richard H. Morrissey, Framingham, Mass.

In the past two years, we've also shown Superman on covers as a father, an old man and a magician. We've shown him dying and unable to die. And he's been in plenty of other puzzling situations. That's the real idea—to get you interested so you'll buy the mag to find out what's going on in the cover scene. —Ed.



Dear Editor:

ACTION #398 wasn't a bad comic. Even I have to admit that. The plot was straight out of the Superman I've known ever since I could read, but somehow it came off.

How does one describe a typical 1950-1970 Superman story? Saccharin? Simplistic? Non-sequitur? Yes, and more besides. Once in a while there would be a good story—I mean a REALLY good story—but even that would be marred by talking down to the reader. And I didn't like that even around 1952-53 when I first started reading them.

Take your plot of "The Pied Piper of Steel" and boil it down to its elements. You'll find it fits right into the mold of that old Superman. It wouldn't stack up with "The Death of Superman," "Superman's Return to Krypton," or those other classics, but it had one thing going for it that even those didn't—it was aimed at people of average or higher intelligence.

Just an average story, but well done. The new decade looks good.

Donald Markstein, New Orleans, La.

Well, Don, an editor has to read his own magazines—so we make sure ours have material that we'll enjoy! —Ed.



Dear Editor:

"Spawn of the Unknown" didn't measure up to its title. Or should I say measure down? For an unoriginal title, you gave us a highly original story and one which I consider Leo Dorfman's best. (You will excuse me if I use Geoff Brown's real name.) I must admit, I was astounded as Superman till the explanation was given.

Roger Schpolcraft, Follansbee, W. Va.

What would YOU have titled the story? "A Plant Called Supergirl"? "The Girl With the Green Thumb"? Or "Superman Goes Down the Garden Path"? —Ed.

TALES
OF THE
FORTRESS

SUPERMAN

TALK ABOUT CRUST!
THAT DOUBLECROSSER,
SUPERGIRL, HATES ME
SO MUCH, SHE BUILT
HER OWN ENTRANCE
INTO THE FORTRESS!

FOR YEARS,
THE TEAM OF
SUPERGIRL AND
SUPERMAN
HAS WORKED
TOGETHER IN
PERFECT COM-
RADESHIP! BUT
NOW, SUDDENLY,
MYSTERIOUSLY,
THE WORLD'S
GREATEST HERO
AND HEROINE HAVE
CROSSED SWORDS!
YOU'LL BE SHOCKED
AT THE SECRET
BEHIND THE STORY
OF:

SINCE
SUPERMAN
AND I DESPISE
EACH OTHER,
**IT'S WAR
BETWEEN US!**
I WANT
NOTHING TO
DO WITH THAT
**SUPER-
LOUT!**

**SUPERMAN
VS.
SUPERGIRL**

ART: SWANE
ANDERSON

"THE FEUD OF THE TITANS!"

STORY:
GEOFF BROWNE

AS **SUPERMAN**
ENTERS HIS
ARCTIC BASTION...

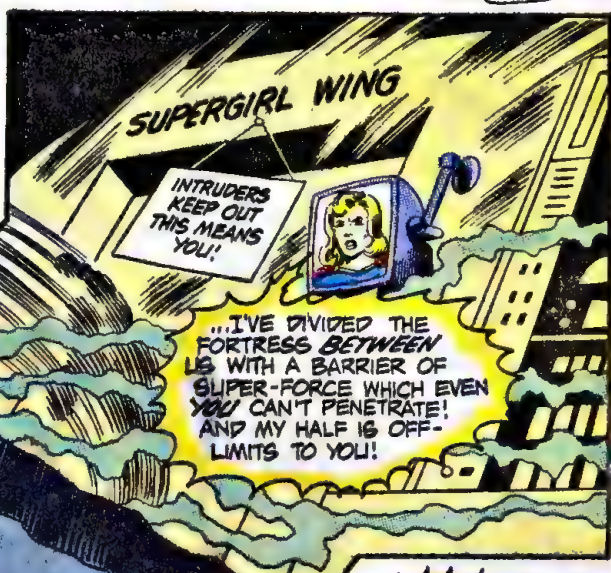
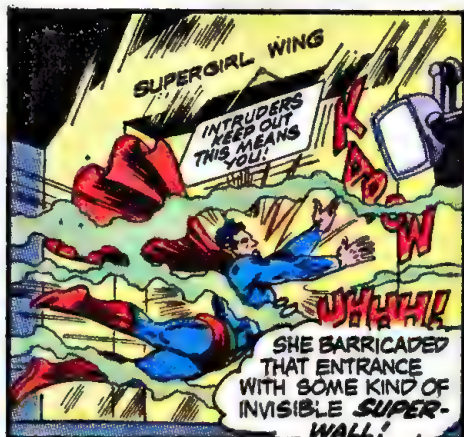
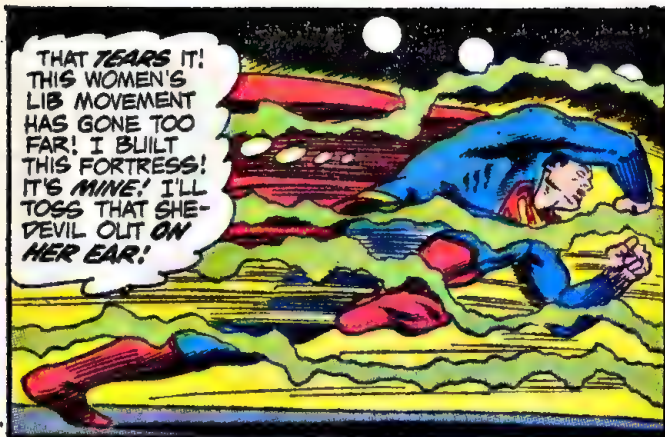
OF ALL THE GALL!
SHE'S FILLED THE FORTRESS
WITH **NOXIOUS FLAMES!**
LUCKILY THEY CAN'T HARM
KANDOR*, WHICH GETS ITS
OXYGEN FROM A SPECIAL
TANK!

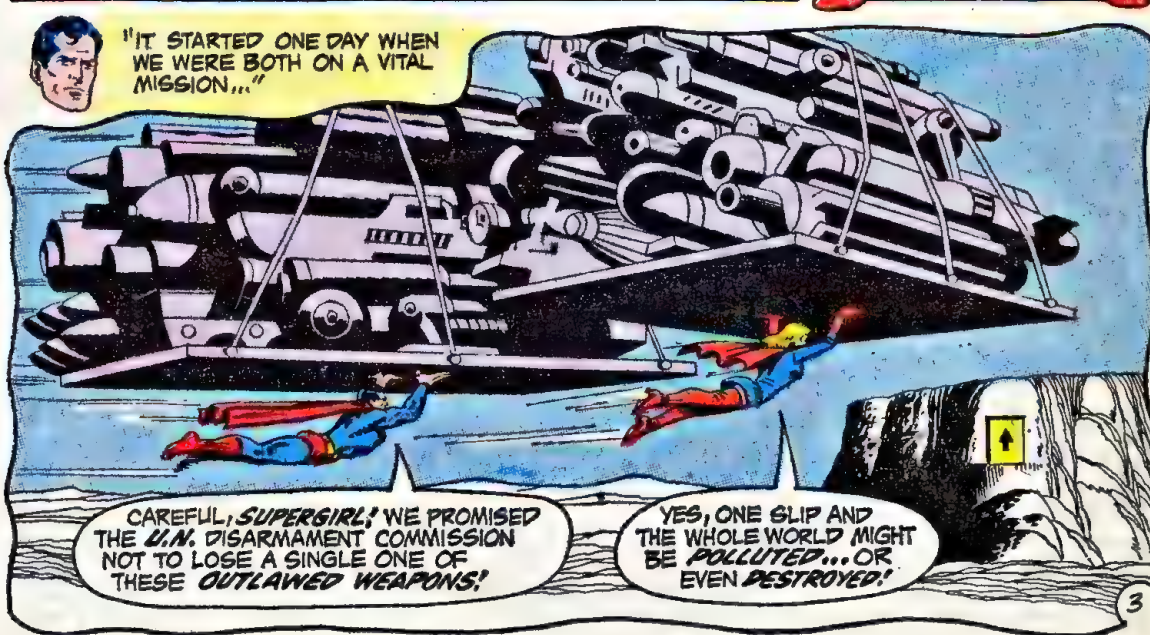
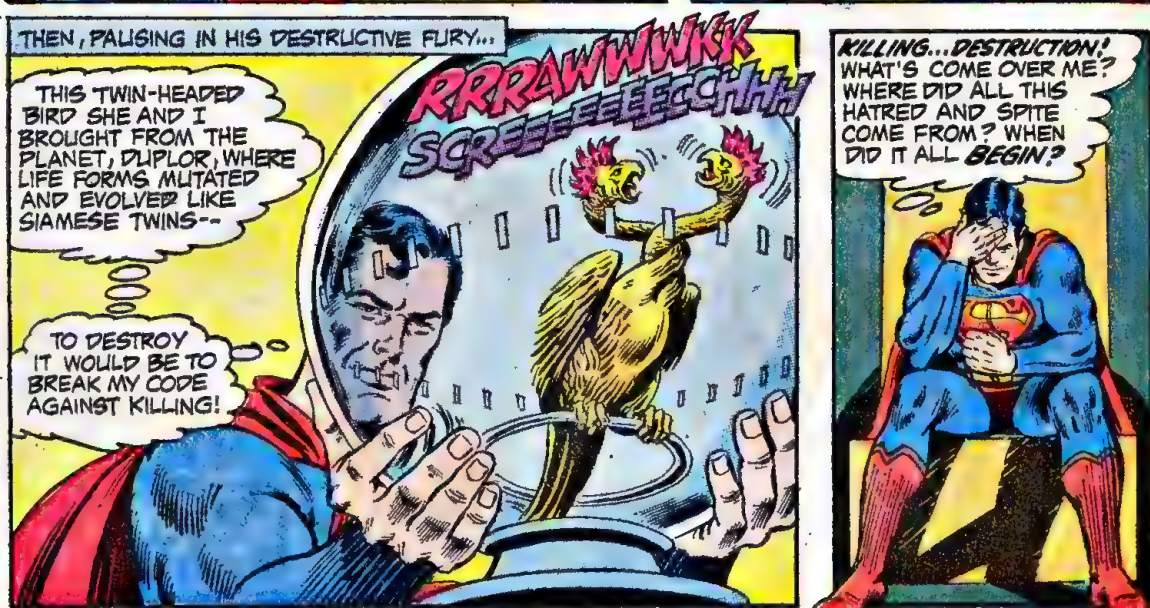
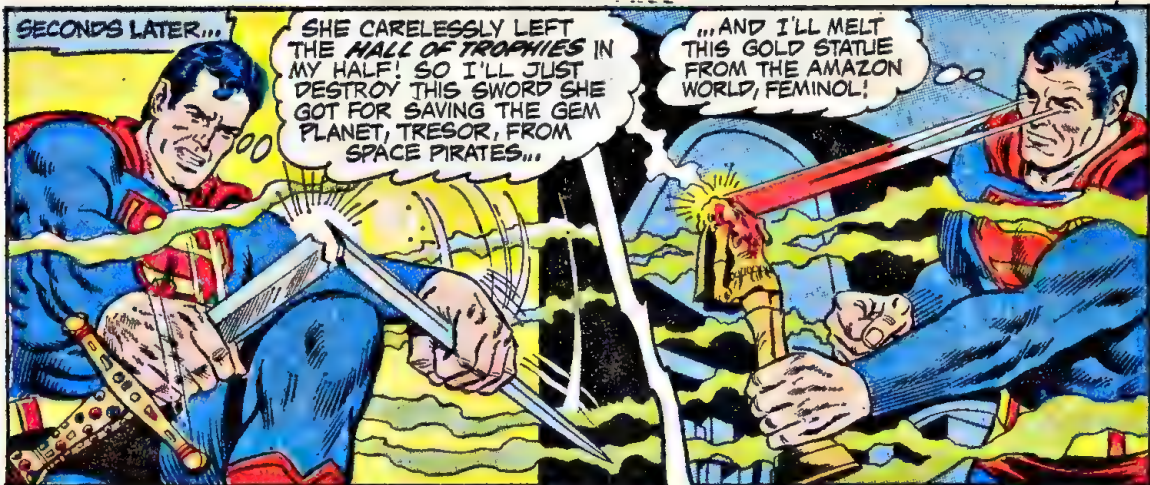
NATURALLY SHE DID IT TO **SPITE**
ME, BUT MY INVULNERABLE BODY
IS IMPERVIOUS TO THE FLAMES! I'LL
SIMPLY VACUUM THE AIR WITH
MY **SUPERBREATH--**

LIKE SO!

* A ONCE MIGHTY CITY OF **SUPERMAN'S** NATIVE
PLANET, **KRYPTON**, NOW SHRUNKEN IN A BOTTLE BY
THE EVIL COMPUTER, **BRAINIAC!**

SSSZZZ ZUUUPPP





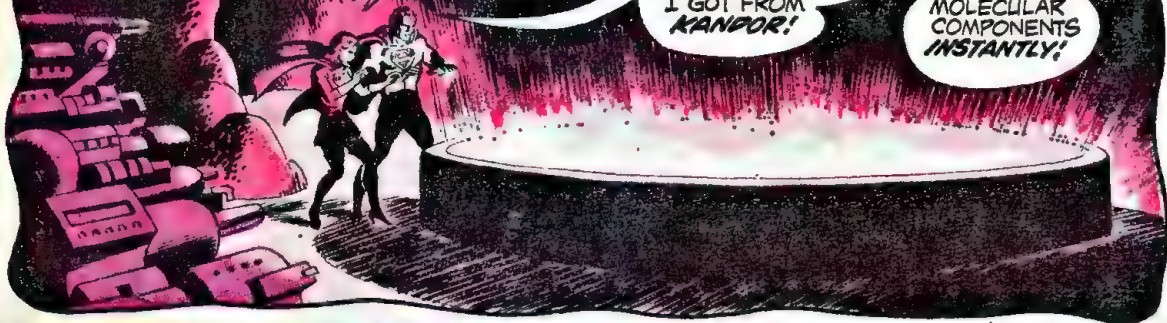


"THEN, IN THE ROCKY DEPTHS BENEATH THE FORTRESS..."

THINK THIS DISINTEGRATION PIT WILL DO THE JOB?

THIS ATOMIC CAULDRON IS FUELED BY RADIOACTIVE KRYPTONIAN ELEMENTS WHICH I GOT FROM KANDOR!

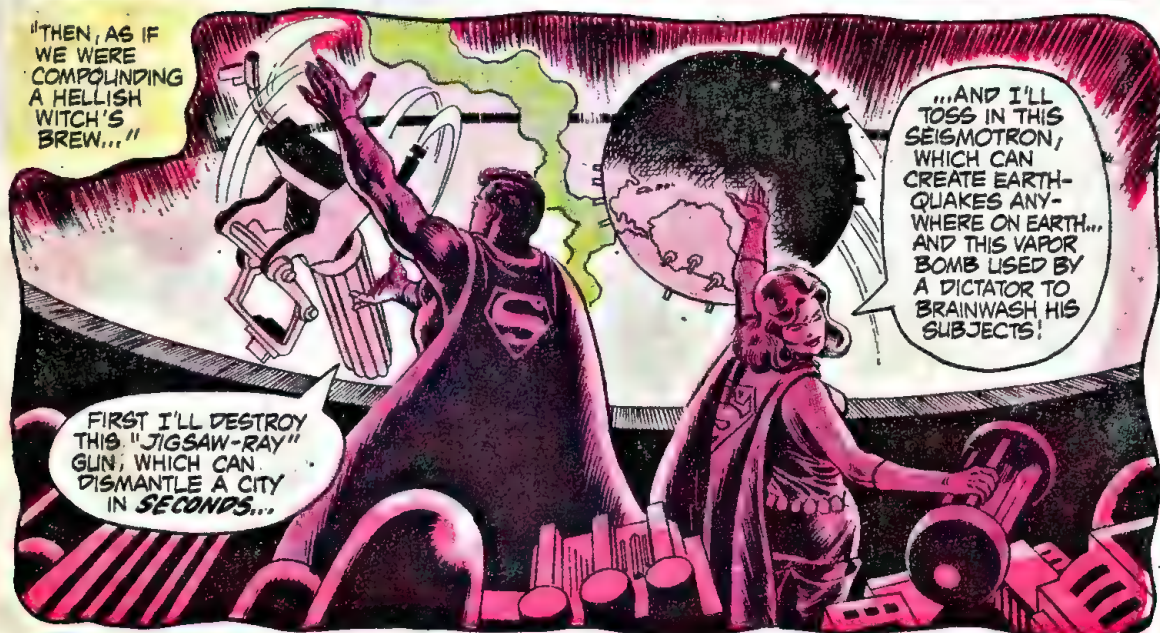
IT WILL DISSOLVE THESE SUPER-WEAPONS INTO THEIR MOLECULAR COMPONENTS INSTANTLY!



"THEN, AS IF WE WERE COMPOUNDING A HELLISH WITCH'S BREW..."

...AND I'LL TOSS IN THIS SEISMOTRON, WHICH CAN CREATE EARTHQUAKES ANYWHERE ON EARTH... AND THIS VAPOR BOMB USED BY A DICTATOR TO BRAINWASH HIS SUBJECTS!

FIRST I'LL DESTROY THIS "JIGSAW-RAY" GUN, WHICH CAN DISMANTLE A CITY IN SECONDS...



"AS THE DOOMSDAY WEAPONS WENT UP IN SMOKE..."

HOLD IT, SUPERGIRL! MY X-RAY VISION SHOWS YOU HID ONE OF THOSE WEAPONS BENEATH THOSE ROCKS!

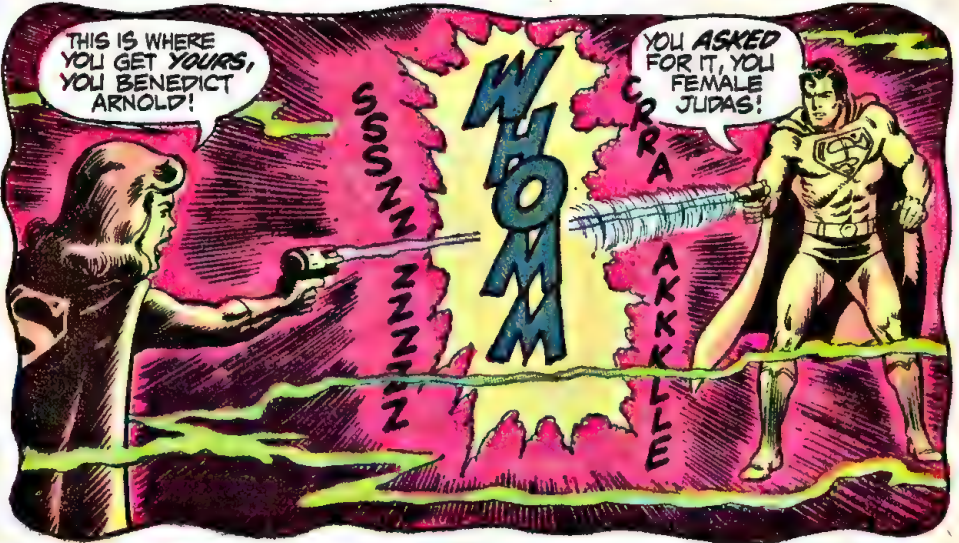


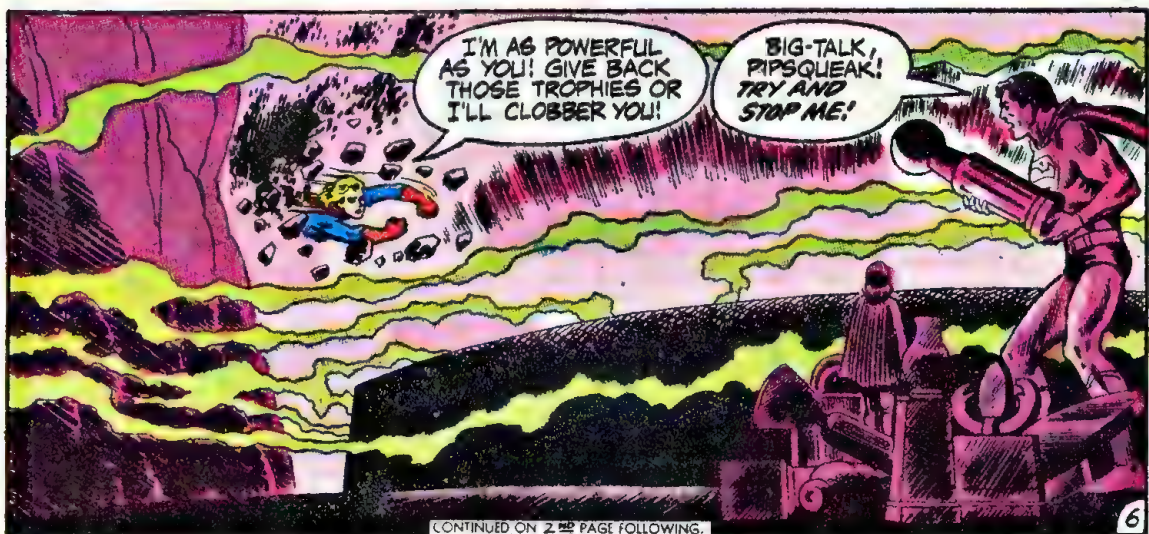
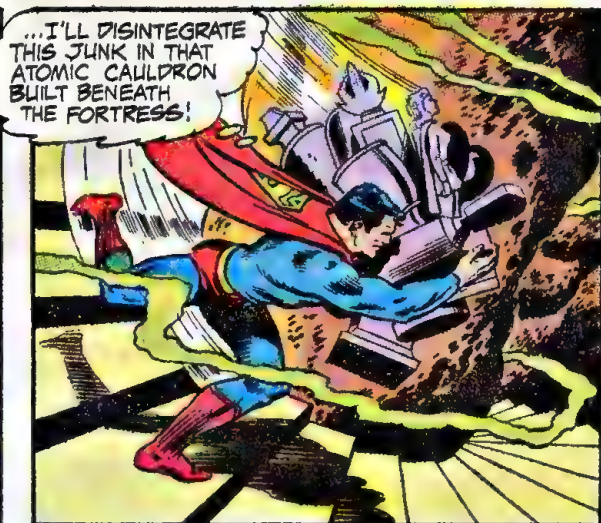
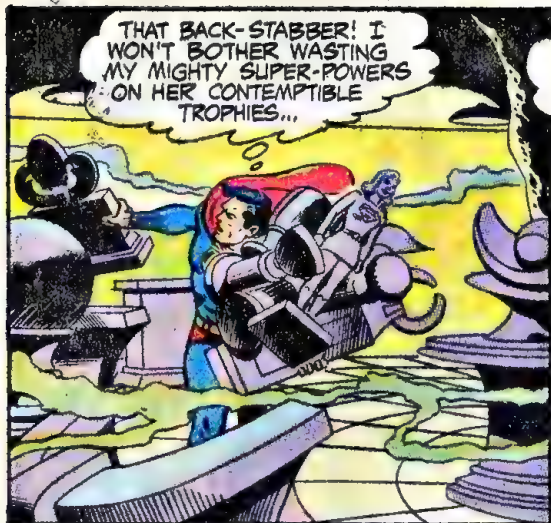
IT'S A SOUPED-UP LASER-GUN, WHICH CAN DESTROY MY IMPENETRABLE UNIFORM! YOU PROBABLY ARE GOING TO TRY TO KILL ME WITH IT, YOU MISERABLE DOUBLE-CROSSER!





"AND, IN THAT MOMENT, I KNEW OUR PARTNERSHIP WAS ENDED! WE HATED EACH OTHER WITH EVERY FIBER IN OUR BEINGS!"





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for victory,

The
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most
explosive
moment.

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Story by Owen Crump Produced by Owen Crump Directed by Etienne Perier

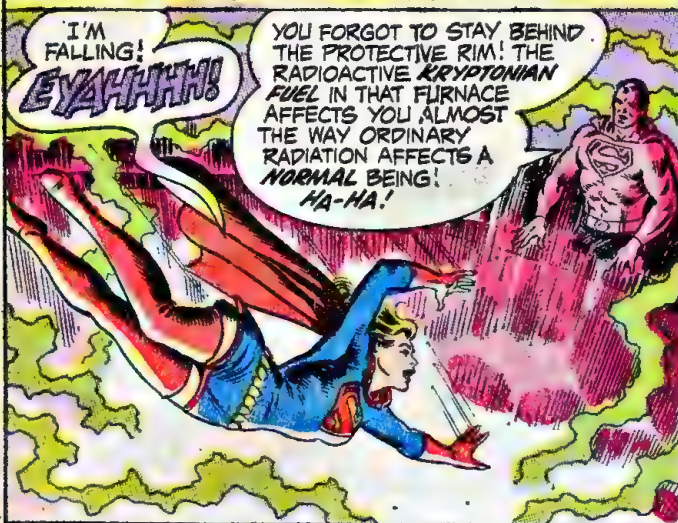
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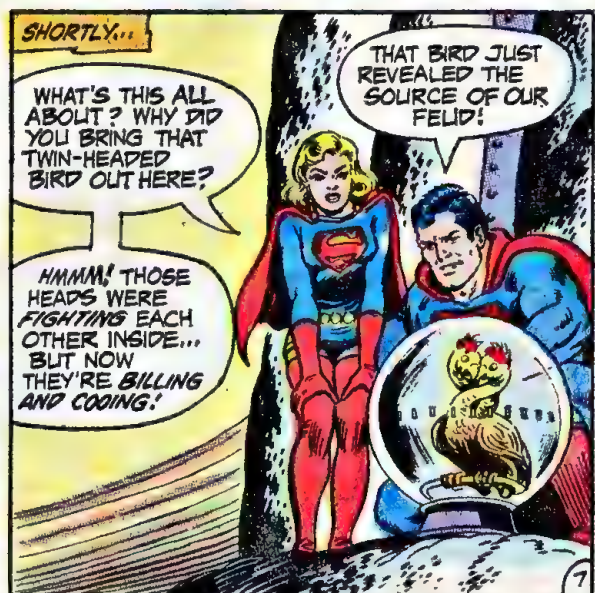
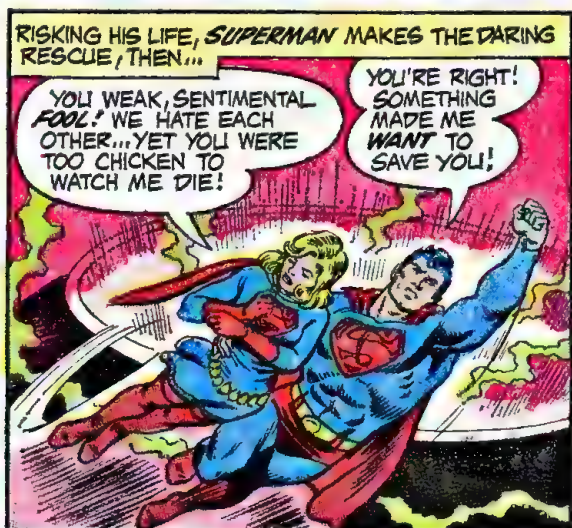
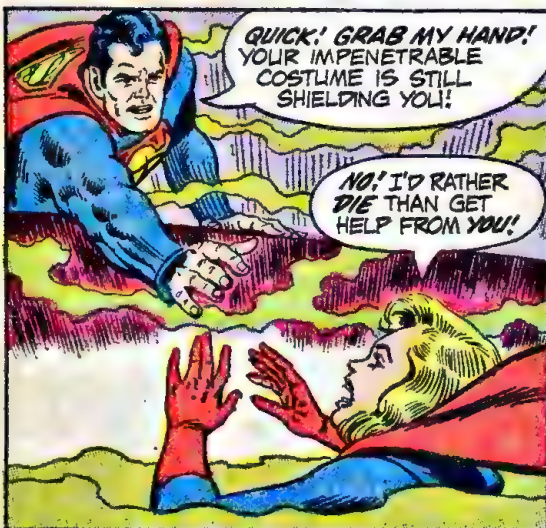
PANAVISION
TECHNICOLOR
FROM Warner Bros.
Kinney company

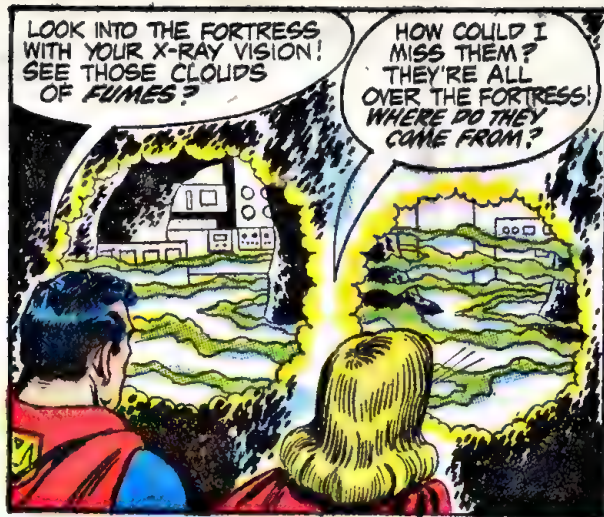
COMING SOON TO A THEATRE NEAR YOU

AS SUPERGIRL UNWITTINGLY FLIES OVER THE CAULDRON...

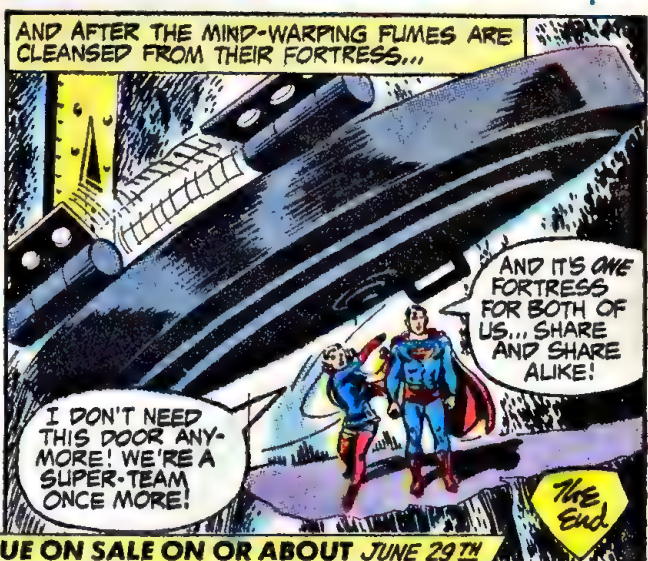
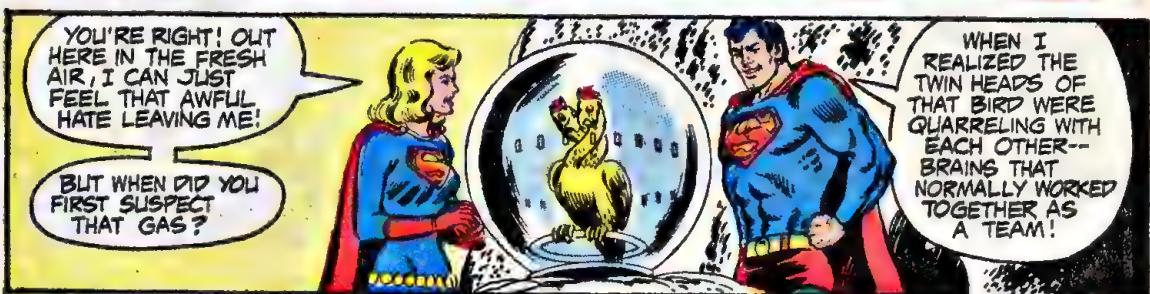


BUT FROM WITHIN THE MAN OF STEEL, A DEEPER INSTINCT SURGES!





"WHEN THAT GAS COMBINED WITH THE RADIOACTIVE KRYPTONIAN ELEMENTS IN THE DISINTEGRATION FURNACE, IT AFFECTED OUR SUPER-BODIES-- AND CAUSED US TO DETEST EACH OTHER."



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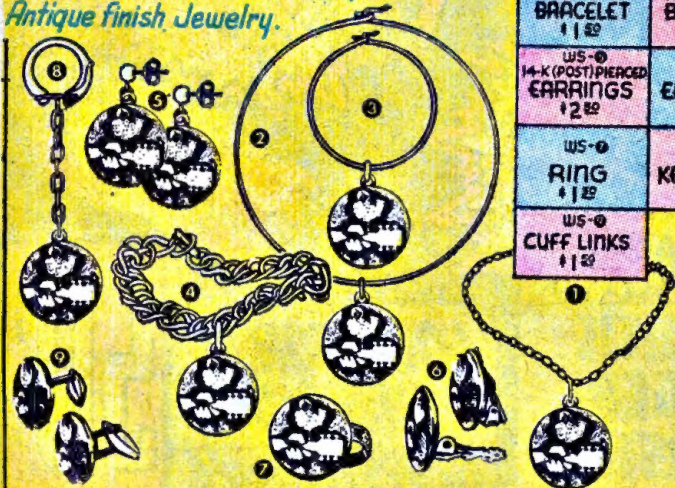
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